

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. The claims are in the format as required by 35 C.F.R. § 1.121.

1. (Currently amended) A market analysis system comprising:
  - a computer processor;
  - a computer readable storage medium;
  - a database stored on the computer readable storage medium comprising aggregate transaction data; and
  - a software program stored on the computer readable storage medium executable by the processor to:
    - receive a set of transaction data from an electronic exchange where market transactions are conducted electronically via the Internet;
    - store the set of transaction data in the database;
    - define standard pricing groups according to configuration information received at the market analysis system from one or more suppliers that participate in the electronic exchange, wherein the configuration information includes standard pricing group attributes, wherein the standard pricing group attributes include a value corresponding to a delivery term, a locale, a product, a service, a customer type, a time scale, or a sales channel;
    - categorize products and services from the aggregate transaction data into the standard pricing groups ~~defined by one or more~~ utilizing the standard pricing group attributes;
    - determine at least one statistical analysis to be applied to a standard pricing group;
    - define starting values and default parameters of the at least one statistical analysis to be applied to the standard pricing group; and
    - apply ~~a the at least one~~ at least one statistical analysis to ~~compare the products or services in~~ the standard pricing group to derive a set of results, wherein the set of results include a time-windowed relationship within the standard pricing group.

2. (Currently amended) The market analysis system of Claim 1, wherein the at least one statistical analysis ~~applied~~ comprises at least one of a demand function analysis, a time series analysis, a correlation analysis, a request for quote analysis and an auction analysis.
3. (Currently amended) The market analysis system of Claim 1, wherein the software program is further executable to store ~~a the~~ set of results from the at least one statistical analysis in an aggregate market database.
4. (Currently amended) The market analysis system of Claim 1, wherein the software program is further executable to communicate ~~a the~~ set of results ~~of the application of from the~~ at least one statistical analysis to a ~~user~~ supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.
5. (Currently amended) The market analysis system of Claim 4, wherein the software program is further executable to communicate the set of results from the at least one statistical analysis in a format compatible with a revenue management software program running on a computer of a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.
6. (Currently amended) The market analysis system of Claim 4, wherein the software program is further executable to communicate the set of results from the at least one statistical analysis in response to a user request from a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.
7. (Original) The market analysis system of Claim 1, wherein the software program is further executable to return a summary of the set of transaction data.
8. (Currently amended) A system for analyzing transactions at an electronic exchange comprising:
  - a database storing a set of transaction data received from the electronic exchange where market transactions are conducted electronically via the Internet;
  - a configuration manager operable to :
    - define standard pricing groups according to configuration information received at the market analysis system from one or more suppliers that participate in the electronic exchange, wherein the configuration information includes standard pricing group attributes, wherein the standard pricing group attributes include a value corresponding to

a delivery term, a locale, a product, a service, a customer type, a time scale, or a sales channel;

categorize products and services from the set of aggregate transaction data into the standard pricing groups utilizing the standard pricing group attributes;

determine at least one statistical analysis to be applied to a standard pricing group; and

define starting values and default parameters of the at least one statistical analysis to be applied to the standard pricing group; and

a market analyzer operable to apply the at least one statistical analysis to one of the standard pricing groups to compare attributes of the products or services in the standard pricing group; to derive a set of results, wherein the set of results include a time-windowed relationship within the standard pricing group.

9. (Original) The system of Claim 8, wherein the standard pricing group further comprises an aggregation of data from the set of transaction data.

10. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein the at least one statistical analysis comprises at least one of a demand function analysis, a time series analysis, a correlation analysis, a request for quote analysis, and an auction analysis.

11. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 8, further comprising:  
a communications server operable to:  
receive the set of transaction data from an electronic exchange;  
communicate the set of transaction data to the market analyzer;  
receive a request for a statistical analysis of the transaction data from a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange; and  
communicate a set of results from the at least one statistical analysis to the supplier.

12. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 11, wherein the communications server comprises:

an input interface further comprising:  
a configuration interface operable to receive configuration information from a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange for basing the manner in which products or

services are grouped and for defining standard pricing groups according to configuration information received at the market analysis system, wherein the configuration information includes standard pricing group attributes, wherein the standard pricing group attributes include a value corresponding to a delivery term, a locale, a product, a service, a customer type, a time scale, or a sales channel;

a transaction interface operable to receive the set of transaction data; and

a request interface operable to receive the request; and

an output interface operable to send a response to said request.

13. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 8, further comprising a configuration manager operable to:

~~select a~~ determine at least one statistical analysis ~~model to be applied to~~ analyze the standard pricing group; and

wherein the market analyzer is further operable to apply the at least one selected statistical analysis ~~model~~ to the standard pricing group to derive a set of results, wherein the set of results include a time-windowed relationship within the standard pricing group.

14. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 13, wherein the configuration manager comprises:

a standard pricing group manager operable to define the standard pricing group;

a model manager operable to define the at least one statistical analysis applied; and

a supplier manager operable to manage information regarding a supplier[[s]] that participates in the electronic exchange.

15. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 13, wherein the configuration manager is further operable to define default values and standard parameters for the at least one statistical analysis ~~model~~.

16. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 8, further comprising a request manager operable to:

receive a request from a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange for a set of results of the application of the statistical analysis;

retrieve the set of results from the database; and

communicate the set of results to the supplier.

17. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein the request manager is further operable to return a summary of the set of transaction data to the supplier.

18. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 16, wherein the request manager is further operable to communicate the set of results from the at least one statistical analysis in a format that is compatible with a revenue management software program running on a computer of a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 16, wherein the request manager comprises:

- a retrieval manager operable to retrieve the set of results from the database; and
- an aggregation manager operable to summarize the set of transaction data.

20. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 8, further comprising a task manager operable to:

- schedule the application of the at least one statistical analysis; and
- prompt the market analyzer to apply the at least one statistical analysis.

21. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 20, wherein the task manager comprises:

- a schedule manager operable to maintain a schedule for the application of the at least one statistical analysis; and

- a scheduler operable to prompt the market analyzer to apply the at least one statistical analysis according to the schedule.

22. (Currently amended) A method for analyzing transactions at an electronic exchange, comprising:

- receiving a set of transaction data from the electronic exchange where market transactions are conducted electronically via the Internet;

- storing the set of transaction data in a database;

- defining standard pricing groups according to configuration information received at the market analysis system, wherein the configuration information includes standard pricing group attributes, wherein the standard pricing group attributes include a value corresponding to a delivery term, a locale, a product, a service, a customer type, a time scale, or a sales channel;;

categorizing products and services into standard pricing groups ~~defined by one or more attributes~~ utilizing the standard pricing group attributes;

determining at least one statistical analysis to be applied to a standard pricing group;

defining starting values and default parameters of the at least one statistical analysis to be applied to the standard pricing group; and

applying a at least one statistical analysis to the ~~a~~ standard pricing group to ~~compare the products or services and derive results to~~ derive a set of results, wherein the set of results include a time-windowed relationship within the standard pricing group.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 22, wherein the standard pricing group comprises an aggregation of data from the set of transaction data.

24. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 23, further comprising:

receiving a request for a set of results from a ~~requestor~~ supplier that participates in the electronic exchange;

analyzing the set of transaction data with respect to the standard pricing groups;

applying at least one statistical analysis to one or more of the standard pricing groups to ~~compare two or more products or services to~~ derive a set of results, wherein the set of results include a time-windowed relationship within the standard pricing group; and

returning the set of results to the ~~requestor~~ supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.

25. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 24, further comprising formatting the set of results of the at least one statistical analysis to be compatible with a revenue management software program running on a computer of a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.

26. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 22, further comprising communicating a summary of the set of transaction data from the at least one statistical analysis to a ~~requestor~~ supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.

27. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 22, further comprising applying the ~~statistical~~ analysis to the standard pricing group according to a predefined schedule.

28. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 22, wherein the at least one statistical analysis ~~applied~~ comprises at least one of a demand function analysis, a time series analysis, a correlation analysis, a request for quotes analysis and an auction analysis.

29. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 22, further comprising storing the set of results in from the at least one at least one statistical analysis in an aggregate market database.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 22, wherein the set of transaction data includes aggregate transaction data.

31. (Currently amended) A system for analyzing transactions at an electronic exchange comprising:

a software program stored on a tangible storage medium, executable by a computer processor to:

receive a set of transaction data from an electronic exchange where market transactions are conducted electronically via the Internet;

store the set of transaction data in a database;

define standard pricing groups according to configuration information received at the market analysis system from one or more suppliers that participate in the electronic exchange, wherein the configuration information includes standard pricing group attributes, wherein the standard pricing group attributes include a value corresponding to a delivery term, a locale, a product, a service, a customer type, a time scale, or a sales channel;

categorize products and services from the aggregate transaction data into the standard pricing groups ~~defined by one or more~~ utilizing the standard pricing group attributes;

determine at least one statistical analysis to be applied to a standard pricing group;

define starting values and default parameters of the at least one statistical analysis to be applied to the standard pricing group; and

categorize at least a portion of the set of transaction data into at least one standard pricing group defined by one or more attributes; and

apply at least one statistical analysis to the standard pricing group to derive a set of results, wherein the set of results include a time-windowed relationship within the standard pricing group ~~compare products or services;~~.

32. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 31, wherein the statistical analysis ~~applied~~ comprises at least one of a demand function analysis, a time series analysis, a correlation analysis, a request for quote analysis and an auction analysis.

33. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 31, wherein the software program is further executable to communicate the set of results ~~of the application of~~ from the at least one statistical analysis ~~to a requester~~ in a format compatible with a revenue management software program running on a computer of a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.

34. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 31, wherein the software program is further executable to apply the at least one statistical analysis according to a predefined schedule.

35. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 31, wherein the software program is further executable to communicate a summary of the set of transaction data to a ~~requester~~ supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.

36. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 31, wherein the software program is further executable to communicate ~~a the set of results from the application of the~~ at least one statistical analysis to a supplier that participates in the electronic exchange.

37. (New) The market analysis system of claim 1, wherein the set of results from the at least one statistical analysis comprises an estimate of demand elasticity, an average price, a prediction about future market behavior, a supplier's performance, unsuccessful sales transactions, a supplier's willingness to sell, a probability to win a contract, an expected price distribution, an expected price development curve, or a combination thereof.

38. (New) The system for analyzing transactions at an electronic exchange of claim 8, wherein the set of results from the at least one statistical analysis comprises an estimate of



demand elasticity, an average price, a prediction about future market behavior, a supplier's performance, unsuccessful sales transactions, a supplier's willingness to sell, a probability to win a contract, an expected price distribution, an expected price development curve, or a combination thereof.

39. (New) The method for analyzing transactions at an electronic exchange of claim 22, wherein the set of results from the at least one statistical analysis comprises an estimate of demand elasticity, an average price, a prediction about future market behavior, a supplier's performance, unsuccessful sales transactions, a supplier's willingness to sell, a probability to win a contract, an expected price distribution, an expected price development curve, or a combination thereof.

40. (New) The system for analyzing transactions at an electronic exchange of claim 31, wherein the set of results from the at least one statistical analysis comprises an estimate of demand elasticity, an average price, a prediction about future market behavior, a supplier's performance, unsuccessful sales transactions, a supplier's willingness to sell, a probability to win a contract, an expected price distribution, an expected price development curve, or a combination thereof.